



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#6
03/06/02
AS

In re Application of:

Satoshi Suzuki et al

Serial No.: 09/940,787

Group Art Unit: 1711

Filed: August 29, 2001

Examiner: Rabon A. Sergent

For: URETHANE COMPOSITION FOR SHEET TRANSPORT ROLL, AND SHEET
TRANSPORT ROLL PRODUCED BY EMPLOYING THE URETHANE COMPOSITION

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Date: February 28, 2002

Sir:

Reconsideration of the rejection contained in the Office Action dated November 28, 2001, in view of the following and the attached document are respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 1-17 were rejected under the first paragraph of 35 USC § 112 as not being described in the specification as filed. Specifically, it was asserted that the the claims contain subject matter which was not described in the specification as filed in terms of how the hardness values are determined. Further, clarification was requested as to this determination and it was required that the means of determining the hardness must be clearly set forth in the specification. Reconsideration of this rejection in view of the enclosed document and the following comments is respectfully requested.

From a careful review of the specification, it is submitted that the subject specification does contain information as to the manner in which the hardness values are determined. The attention of the examiner is directed to the procedure set forth on lines 11-13 of page 13 and lines 14-17 of page 19 which relates to how hardness is determined. The latter passage on page 19 states:

"The surface hardness of each of the sheet transport rolls was measured with a load of 9.8 N by means of a durometer of Type A."

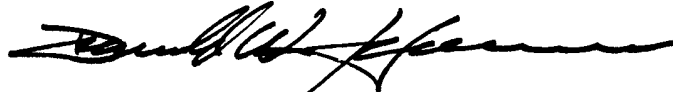
Further, the attention of the examiner is directed to the attached document entitled "JIS K 6253:1997 - Hardness testing methods for rubber, vulcanized or thermoplastic" for further specifics of this procedure. It is to be noted that a durometer of type A is described in Section 5.2(2) of page 11, in Fig. 2 of page 12 and in Examples 2 and 3 of Section 5.6 of page 15. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection under the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112 is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that the subject application is now in condition for allowance and early notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

In the event this paper is not timely filed, the undersigned hereby petitions for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for this extension may be charged to Deposit Account No. 01-2340, along with any other additional fees which may be required with respect to this paper.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, WESTERMAN & HATTORI, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donald W. Hanson", written over a horizontal line.

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